

**FINAL
DECISION DOCUMENT FOR
THE GROUND SCAR WITH TRENCHES AT DRIVING COURSE
PARCEL 200(7)
FORT McCLELLAN, CALHOUN COUNTY, ALABAMA**

ISSUED BY: THE U. S. ARMY

APRIL 2001

**U.S. ARMY ANNOUNCES
DECISION DOCUMENT**

This Decision Document presents the determination that no further investigations or remedial action will be necessary to protect human health and the environment at the Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7), at Fort McClellan (FTMC) in Calhoun County, Alabama. The location of the parcel at FTMC is shown on Figure 1. In addition, this Decision Document provides the site background information used as the basis for the no further action decision.

This Decision Document is issued by the U.S. Army Garrison at FTMC with involvement by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT). The BCT consists of representatives from the U.S. Army, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region IV, and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The BCT is responsible for planning and implementing environmental investigations at FTMC.

Based on the results of the site investigation (SI) completed at the Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7), the U.S. Army will implement no further action at the site. This decision was made by the U.S. Army with concurrence by the BCT.

This Decision Document summarizes site information presented in detail in background documents that are part of the administrative record for the Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7). A list of background documents for Parcel 200(7) is presented on Page 2. A copy of the administrative record for Parcel 200(7) is available at the public repositories listed on Page 3.

**REGULATIONS
GOVERNING SITE**

FTMC is undergoing closure by the BRAC Commission under Public Laws 100-526 and 101-510. The 1990 Base Closure Act, Public Law 101-510, established the process by which U.S. Department of Defense installations would be closed or

realigned. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program requires investigation and cleanup of federal properties prior to transfer to the public domain. In addition, the Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) (Public Law 102-426) requires federal agencies to identify real property on military installations scheduled for closure that can be transferred to the public for redevelopment or reuse. Consequently, the U.S. Army is conducting environmental studies of the impact of suspected contaminants at parcels at FTMC. The BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act process.

SITE BACKGROUND

FTMC is located in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains of northeastern Alabama near the cities of Anniston and Weaver in Calhoun County. FTMC comprises two main areas of government-owned properties: the Main Post and Pelham

PRIMARY BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS FOR PARCEL 200(7)

Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. (ESE), 1998, *Final Environmental Baseline Survey, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, prepared for U.S. Army Environmental Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, January.

IT Corporation (IT), 2001, *Final Site Investigation Report, Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, April.

IT Corporation (IT), 2000, *Final Human Health and Ecological Screening Values and PAH Background Summary Report, Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, July.

IT Corporation (IT), 1998, *Final Site-Specific Field Sampling Plan Attachment Site Investigation at the Ground Scar with Trenches, Parcel 200(7), Fort McClellan, Calhoun County, Alabama*, December.

Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), 1998, *Final Background Metals Survey Report, Fort McClellan, Alabama*, July.

Range. Until May 1998, the FTMC installation also included the Choccolocco Corridor, a 4,488-acre tract of land that was leased from the State of Alabama. The Main Post, which occupies 18,929 acres, is bounded on the east by the Choccolocco Corridor, which previously connected the Main Post with the Talladega National Forest. Pelham Range, which occupies 22,245 acres, is located approximately 5 miles due west of the Main Post and adjoins the Anniston Army Depot on the southwest.

The Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7), is located in the central portion of the Main Post. The site is located at the corner of 22nd Street and Rocky Hollow Road (Figure 1), and covers 1.5-acre. A review of aerial photographs taken from 1941 to 1972 reveal the presence of a ground scar. On the 1954 aerial photograph,

the ground scar appeared to contain five trenches oriented northeast-southwest. It is not known if these trenches were used in training activities or for disposal activities. Interviews conducted during the environmental baseline study (EBS) suggest that the trenches may have been used to dispose of excess supertropical bleach (STB). STB was sometimes used during decontamination exercises. STB is a white powder containing 30 percent chlorine.

The ground scar is currently covered with thick vegetation and pine trees. Various construction debris, boulder-sized rocks, and a corroded five-gallon container were found in the approximate former location of the ground scar with trenches.

Ingram Creek, a major tributary of Cane Creek, is located to the southwest of the parcel. A small

tributary stream flows into Ingram Creek from the east. Site elevation is approximately 820 feet and slopes to the west/southwest.

SCOPE AND ROLE OF PARCEL

Information developed from the EBS (Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc. [ESE], 1998) was used to group areas at FTMC into standardized parcel categories using U.S. Department of Defense guidance. All parcels received a parcel designation for one of seven CERFA categories, as appropriate. The seven CERFA categories include CERFA Uncontaminated Parcels (Categories 1 and 2); CERFA Contaminated Parcels (Categories 3 through 7); and CERFA Qualified Parcels. The Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7), was categorized as a CERFA

**PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES
FOR FORT McCLELLAN**

Anniston Calhoun County Public Library

Reference Section

Anniston, Alabama 36201

Point of Contact: Ms. Sunny Addison

Telephone: (256) 237-8501

Fax: (256) 238-0474

Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Houston Cole Library

9th Floor

Jacksonville State University

700 Pelham Road

Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

Point of Contact: Ms. Rita Smith (256) 782-5249

Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 7:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Friday 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Category 7 parcel. CERFA Category 7 parcels are areas that are not evaluated or require further evaluation (ESE, 1998).

With the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcel 200(7) is recategorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred, but at concentrations that do not require removal or remedial response.

SITE INVESTIGATION

An SI was conducted at the Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7), to determine whether chemical constituents are present at the site at concentrations that present an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment (IT Corporation [IT], 2001).

Four surface soil samples, six subsurface soil samples, four groundwater samples, three depositional soil samples, two surface water samples, and two sediment samples were collected at the site (Figure 1). Surface and depositional soil samples

were collected from the upper 1 foot of soil; subsurface soil samples were collected at depths greater than 1 foot below ground surface. Groundwater samples were collected from four temporary monitoring wells installed at the site during the SI. Surface water and sediment samples were collected from the tributary to Ingram Creek.

In addition, a geophysical survey was conducted at the Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7), to identify potential trenches. No trenches were identified in the data

collected during the geophysical survey.

Chemical analyses of the samples included target analyte list metals, target compound list volatile organic compounds, target compound list semivolatile organic compounds, pesticides, herbicides, polychlorinated biphenyls, and nitroexplosives. In addition, sediment samples were analyzed for total organic carbon and grain size.

To evaluate whether detected constituents present an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, the analytical results were compared to human health site-specific screening levels (SSSL) and ecological screening values (ESV) for FTMC. The SSSLs and ESVs were developed as part of human health and ecological risk evaluations associated with site investigations being performed under the BRAC Environmental Restoration Program at FTMC. Additionally, metal concentrations exceeding SSSLs and ESVs were compared to media-specific background screening values (Science Applications International Corporation [SAIC], 1998). SVOC concentrations exceeding the SSSLs and ESVs in surface and depositional soils were compared to polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon compound background screening values (IT, 2000) developed for FTMC.

The potential threat to human health is expected to be negligible. Iron (in one subsurface soil sample), aluminum (in one groundwater

sample), thallium (in one groundwater sample), and vanadium (in one groundwater sample) were detected at concentrations exceeding SSSLs and slightly above background values. The remaining metals concentrations were within background concentrations or the range of background values. Although the site is projected for active recreational land use, the analytical data were screened against residential human health SSSLs to evaluate the site for possible unrestricted land use.

Several metals were detected in site media at concentrations exceeding their ESVs and background concentrations. In addition, one polychlorinated biphenyl (Aroclor 1260) was detected in one surface soil sample at concentrations exceeding its ESV (0.04 milligrams per kilogram and 0.02 milligrams per kilogram, respectively. However, the potential impact to ecological receptors is expected to be minimal based on existing habitat. The site is a well-developed area consisting of buildings and paved roads. Viable ecological habitat is limited and not expected to increase in the future. Consequently, the threat to potential ecological receptors is expected to be low.

SITE REMEDIAL ACTIONS

Remedial actions were not conducted at the Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7).

DESCRIPTION OF NO FURTHER ACTION

Remedial alternatives were not developed for Parcel 200(7). No further action is selected, because remedial action is unnecessary to protect human health or the environment at this site. The metals and organic compounds detected in site media at the Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7), do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health or the environment. Therefore, the site is released for unrestricted land reuse.

Furthermore, with the issuance of this Decision Document, Parcel 200(7) is recategorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. Category 3 parcels are areas where release, disposal, and/or migration of hazardous substances has occurred, but at concentrations that do not require a removal or remedial response. The U.S. Army will not take any further action at the Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(7), regarding additional investigation or remedial action.

The following costs are associated with implementing the no-action alternative:

Capital Cost:	\$0
Annual Operation & Maintenance Costs:	\$0
Present Worth Cost:	\$0
Months to Implement:	None
Remedial Duration:	None

DECLARATION

Further investigation or remedial action is unnecessary at the Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(3) (formerly Parcel 200[7]).

The no further action remedy protects human health and the environment in the proposed land reuse scenario, complies with relevant federal and state regulations, and is a cost-effective application of public funds. This remedy will not leave in place hazardous substances at concentrations that require limiting the future use of the parcel, or that require land-use control restrictions. The site is released for unrestricted future land reuse. Parcel 200(7) is recategorized as a CERFA Category 3 parcel. There will not be any further remedial costs associated with implementing no further action at the Ground Scar with Trenches at Driving Course, Parcel 200(3) (formerly Parcel 200(7)).

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Any questions or comments concerning this Decision Document or other documents in the administrative record can be directed to:

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emh2.army.mil

ACRONYMS

BCT	BRAC Cleanup Team
BRAC	Base Realignment and Closure
CERFA	Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act
ESE	Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc.
ESV	ecological screening value
FTMC	Fort McClellan
IT	IT Corporation
SAIC	Science Applications International Corporation
SI	site investigation
SSSL	site-specific screening level
STB	supertropical bleach

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